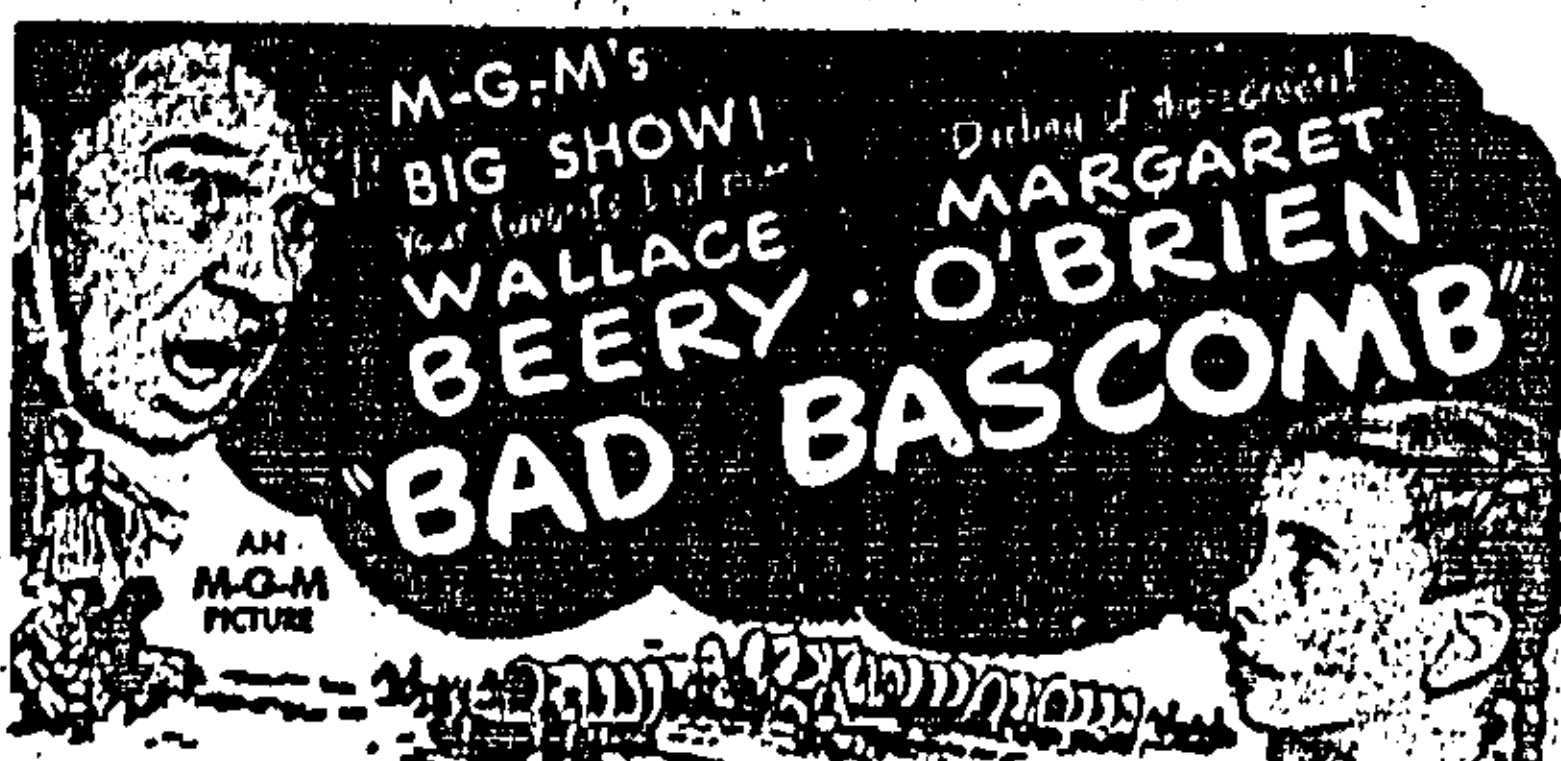


However, as long as the frontiers of Germany are not fixed, it should be unable to agree to the organisation of a central administration in Germany to apply economic unity. We should thereby prejudge the future frontiers of Germany and the constitutional principles.



TO-DAY  
ONLY

★ KINGS ★

At 2.30, 5.10,  
7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

ADDED: LATEST METRO NEWS!

GRAND OPENING TO-MORROW

CORNEL WILDE

Star of "A SONG TO REMEMBER" and "A THOUSAND AND ONE NIGHTS" and "LEAVE HER TO HEAVEN"

And Now...  
The Son of  
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Screenplay by William M. Peck and Melvin Levy  
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LAST 5 SHOWS TO-DAY

At 12.30, 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 &amp; 9.15 P.M.

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Amazing Spectacle of the World at the Dawn of Time!

"ONE MILLION B.C."

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TO-DAY

At 2.30, 5.20,  
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Ginny SIMMS  
Robert PAIGE

Shady Lady

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

Alan Curtis • Martha O'Driscoll

Joe Frisco • Kathleen Howard • Thomas E. Jackson

They'll take you  
just like they  
took the townGinny sings  
"Love With Love"  
"Cuddle Up A  
Little Closer"

NANCY That Reminds Nancy

By Ernie Bushmiller

OH--- THAT  
REMINDS  
MEEXAMS  
TOMORROWWhen You Feel Tired  
and Restless  
take  
Elliott's Nerve  
and  
Brain Tonic

On Sale at All Dispensaries

# Sitting on the Fence

by NATHANIEL  
GUBBINS

THE Lord President of the Council, Mr Herbert Morrison, in announcing an economic inquest into the nation's resources, said:

"Morale is not helped by defeatist literature and articles. In my opinion there is too much spreading of depression and misery."

Was he referring to this unhappy little column? Maybe not. Maybe he doesn't read it. But remembering some of its depressed and miserable moods, and remembering that there is to be a Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Press, the column has made up its mind to be more cheerful in future.

It wants the Royal Commission (and Mr Morrison) to smile approvingly when the column is mentioned. It wants them to say, "Here is a morale builder. Here is a tonic for the highest taxed people in the world," and not "This is the grumpy piece that makes the dinner look smaller than it is."

So for this week at least the column and its happy-go-lucky readers will not be living in austere, irritable Britain. They will be living in The Land of Treacle Tart where nothing unpleasant ever happens, where everybody has everything he wants and everybody loves everybody else.

## The politicians

IN the House of Commons there was a party atmosphere. Little bunches of flowers had been exchanged between members of the Government and Opposition. There was a vase of flowers on the despatch box to prevent Cabinet Ministers banging it in anger.

Front benches smiled at front benches across the floor of the House. Back benches waved cheerily to back benches.

The smiling Speaker, his mouth full of toffee, handed round a paper bag of sticky lollipops to members nearest the Chair.

Then a kindly-faced member of the Opposition rose to move an adjournment of the debate.

"I think," he said, beginning round at everybody, "that I am speaking for the majority of the members of this House when I suggest that nobody feels inclined for a debate this evening (cheers)."

"Personally I have forgotten what we were going to debate about (laughter), but I feel sure it was one of those unpleasant, controversial matters which worry us all and keep us up late at night and cause hon. members to say hurtful things about other hon. members (cries of Shame). We don't want anything like that to happen here (cries of

Do you get enough to eat under the present rationing system?" asked the official.

"Me?" said the housewife. "Oh, plenty. I never have time for more than a snack, especially on washing days."

"Does your husband eat enough?" "Him?" shouted the housewife, laughing, and she sat back on her heels. "Why, he never stops."

"Do you think we are exporting too much, or do you think we should have more in the shops?"

"They can export what they like so far as I'm concerned," said the housewife, "and as for the shops, I never have time to look at them."

"If you were allowed, would you send your next Christmas dinner to the hungry children of Germany?"

"Of course I would, the poor little things," said the housewife. "But my husband wouldn't half create about it."

"Are you satisfied with your accommodation?"

"My rooms? Oh, I think they're lovely. There's still a bit of bomb damage in the bedroom where the chimney comes through, but my husband doesn't sleep on that side of the bed."

CONTRARY to some opinions, the number of pubs bears no relation to the number of drunks. Canterbury is the most thickly licensed county borough in England and Wales; yet only three are more sober. Though East Ham has fewest pubs per head, statistically, 18 county boroughs have a better record for sobriety.

Of every 10,000 people, brewers reckon on 1,500 customers and think that in new residential areas this should be met by one palatial hostelry on road house lines, probably with ballroom or restaurant, and nine "locals."

They insist, too, that we need more elbow room. London's most crowded house has little over two square feet per drinker at peak hours, and lots have only three. More room, they suggest, means better service.

More liquor would be better service still.

NOSE NEWS: Current perfumes selected from one evening's reading of American magazines: FREZZY... INNUENDO... MY SIN... SHOCKING... MENACE... DANGER... SCANDAL.

No, no. We are all too fond of each other (hear, hear). We are all too happy in this happy, prosperous land (loud cheers).

"Therefore," he continued, "when Mr Speaker has finished his toffee (loud laughter) I will ask him to put on the red cloak and hood provided by the Kitchen Committee (cheers), to say nothing of the white whiskers which were sacrificed and gummed together by one of our older and more irresponsible members, sling that sack across his shoulder, and hand a gift to everybody in the House, including those in the bar (loud and prolonged cheers)."

"Ladies first, please," said the kindly-faced member as the blushing Speaker bolted his toffee and wrapped himself in a red cloak.

## The housewife

THE British housewife was down on her knees scrubbing the front-door steps when the official from the Mass Observation Society called. An east wind whistled under her skirt, revealing the holes in her utility stockings. The wedding ring on her blue, swollen fingers was worn thin through years of daily immersion in hot water and soda.

The official brought out his notebook and pencil and stamped his feet.

"You are Mrs. A., of 196b, Paradise Dwellings," said the official, and your husband is a casual worker who is at present—ah—resting."

"That's me," said the housewife, revealing her blue dentures in a happy smile, "and that's him all right, too. He's resting in bed this very minute with a nice cup of tea."

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DEAR Sir, I find it difficult to believe that a reputed singer really greeted Tristram on his entrance with the vulgar cry, "Hello, Patsy Fagan!"

If the incident actually occurred, no wonder foreigners say we do not take opera seriously. If, on the other hand, it is the malicious invention of a sensation-mongering journalist, then an inquiry into Press methods would appear to be long overdue.

I enclose my card. Yours faithfully, "Music-lover."

Several people who have no objection to the reported eccentricities of Rustiguzal complain that there is rarely any real humour in opera. I dissent. In Verdi's little-known *Gli Amici*, the peasants' love has to sing a melancholy piece about his hard life. That is funny enough. But I remember a performance in Milan when the singer in the front part of the horse—it was Tremi—sang so powerfully that he burst the fittings, and the horse fell apart, dislodged Tremi, and behind him the rear part, played by an "extra." This "extra" had arrived late, and dashed on without his braces. He now stood crouching, with his breeches in a heap about his feet, unable to move.

"Do you think you ought to have domestic help?"

"Help? Me? Don't make me laugh. Why, I'm helping two ladies as it is."

"What proportion of his income does your husband allow you for housekeeping?"

"Well, that's another good one, too. When he's working and has paid for his beer and cigarettes and backed all the wrong horses, there's just enough to buy the ration if I help another couple of ladies."

"Are you satisfied with conditions as they are?"

"I've been happier in my life."

"What would happen if you told your husband that you are entitled to at least half his wages for house-keeping?"

"You go and ask him and see what happens to you," said the British housewife, flipping the hearthstone in the pan.

## The letter

HE had such a handsome, smiling face, this man who was writing to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. In his eyes there was an expression of saintly tranquillity, the calm, untroubled gaze of those who have abandoned all worldly interests, who have at last realised the profound truth that the fewer your possessions the happier you are.

Dear Chancellor (he wrote). I dare say I shall be the only man in the country writing to thank you for keeping income tax at its present high level. But as there should be peace on earth towards men of good will, I thought I would send this letter so that you might have something to encourage you in your great task of bringing us nearer a common income level and lowering the wicked pride of those with ambition.

Because I believe, dear Chancellor, that you are a man of good will, like most members of the Government. I believe you are sincere, that you have the true Christian spirit.

In other words, you believe it is wrong that a few should have too much money to waste or save while others have scarcely enough to buy necessities.

Well, dear Chancellor, I was once a man with ambition.

I was born poor, but I worked hard. I started a little business which grew into a big business. I became a member of the middle class, so despised in Russia, but whose sons saved Russia and the rest of the world in the Battle of Britain.

I was not a bad employer. If people looked after my interests I looked after theirs. But I found it all a great worry. I spent sleepless nights working out new schemes to improve the business, to make more money, to provide for my wife and family and my old age. I grew old before my time. I was unhappy. I was worshipping at the shrine of Mammon.

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Now, dear Chancellor, that is all over, thanks to you. As I can see no hope of a substantial decrease in income tax, especially in the higher income groups, I have given up business. I have sold my house. I expect I shall cash in on my insurance policies.

And what a wonderful relief it all is. Instead of spending sleepless nights worrying about work, to pay taxes, to (what we say?) put Germany back on her feet or keep British troops where they are not wanted. I sleep like a child.

My wife and family will have to look after themselves or be looked after by you. This, I think, is as it should be. Provision for the future was always an evil thing, condemned by the Scriptures. We have all observed the degradation of young people with inheritance, of youth dissipating unearned money instead of working for it. We have all met or read about rich and miserable widows.

As for me, my health has improved because I can't ruin it any more with luxuries, and I shall no doubt achieve a great old age to bless you and future Chancellors of the Exchequer for forcing me to live in a sane and proper manner.

Of course, I don't know what's happened to my employees. But I can't bother about them. Neither they nor anybody else will be my responsibility any more.

So, dear Chancellor, may I thank you once again for relieving me of my burdens and making what was once a harassed and unhappy life into a carefree, happy (if useless) one.

Ex-Business Man.

THEY'RE not as long as they were.

"There's so much fish now that you hardly have to queue at all."

"I must say I miss them."

"So jolly they were with everybody so friendly."

"And how funny Mrs. Whatname was. Do you remember?"

"She kept everybody laughing."

"As good as a play."

"I always say the fresh air did me good."

"I've felt better in my life."

"Oh, look, here's only one pair of kippers left."

"You have them, dear."

"No, you have them."

"No, I'd rather not, dear. I'll go to the other shop."

"That's quite a big queue there."

"I know, dear. But Mrs. Whatname's in that one. I expect it's ever so jolly."

"Then I'll come with you, dear."

"All right, dear. We'll go together."

upert & the New Pat-7

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CROSSWORD

20. Its cap does not go ahead. (3)  
27. See I Down.

21. Down  
27. The compiler tries to baffle you in this. (9, 6)  
2. Extract from the roaring eight. (4)  
3. Come back! (5)  
4. Smelling. (5)  
5. The lilies didn't toll let alone this. (6)  
6. A broken repeat. (6)  
7. Break break to do this. (6)  
10. Initially a graining ground for generals. (5)  
12. This led it mixed. (4)  
13. See the unknown quantity up set. (6)  
15. Dexteros in doing anything so as to be unobserved. (3)  
20. This way you provide your entrance. (4)  
21. It may be worth waiting for. (3)  
22. Headrest. (3)  
23. When brought to the bolt did it make the death of 40 lawbreakers any easier? (3)  
24. Not backward it seems in making the weight. (3)

Across  
1. Passages of sorts. (9)  
3. Can be taken easily. (8)  
9. Speaker on a large mound. (6)  
11. Feathered friend in a bemused state. (6)  
13. This pose would cause you to imagine. (8)  
14. Natural to collect on to holiday. (6)  
15. Of course he has vision. (4)  
17. The I.N. was the means of doubling the guard like this. (6)  
19. Result of a long sitting, but not in Parliament. (4)  
22. So fast that it rides on the water. (6)  
25. Statured. (4)

Solution of yesterday's puzzle: Across: 1. Contention; 2. Long; 3. Bazaar; 4. Zoot; 5. Ter; 6. Test; 7. Bazaar; 8. Zoot; 9. Ter; 10. Test; 11. Bazaar; 12. Zoot; 13. Ter; 14. Test; 15. Bazaar; 16. Zoot; 17. Ter; 18. Test; 19. Bazaar; 20. Zoot; 21. Ter; 22. Test; 23. Bazaar; 24. Zoot; 25. Ter.

Down: 1. Contention; 2. Long; 3. Bazaar; 4. Zoot; 5. Ter; 6. Test; 7. Bazaar; 8. Zoot; 9. Ter; 10. Test; 11. Bazaar; 12. Zoot; 13. Ter; 14. Test; 15. Bazaar; 16. Zoot; 17. Ter; 18. Test; 19. Bazaar; 20. Zoot; 21. Ter; 22. Test; 23. Bazaar; 24. Zoot; 25. Ter.

When You Feel Tired and Restless take Elliott's Nerve and Brain Tonic On Sale at All Dispensaries



## Women BEAUTY ARTS

This Space Every Day  
By LOIS LEEDS



Posed for Lois Leeds.  
MOTHER AND DAUGHTER

The Teen Age is a modern age to-day, so let us squarely face their questions. If some of the answers must be—"No," then let us decide which of the answers may be "Yes."

The young skin sometimes isn't as lovely as Nature intended and that girl needs help to guide her on her way to a lovely skin. Then, too, there are times when a little make-up is pretty important, even to Sweet Sixteen. Yes, soap and water cleansing for the girls with perfect skins is fine but it is important to stress how it should be done.

Every Teen Age girl needs a good complexion soap and a soft-bristle brush. She should use a rich lather and brush it into the skin to cleanse the pores. Then it should be immediately rinsed off with cool water. A very light application of a good tissue cream does wonders in keeping her skin soft and lovely. AND she should use face powder. A good one, very finely scented, is not only pretty on her skin but it forms a protective covering for the skin.

All girls to-day use lipstick. Let them have one, with your full consent. But—help in choosing a soft, young shade of red. If you feel that your Teen Age girl should not use makeup every day, then do let

her use it for parties and "high days!" Make good grooming a part of her ritual. She should learn to brush her eyebrows to train them in the way they should go. She should use a bit of eye cream, yours if you wish, to groom her lashes and brows. Her hair should be absolutely gleaming and full of vitality. Teach her the necessity of cleaning her teeth, teach her to give her nails good, hot, soapy scrubbing. Let her have a Rose-coloured polish for every day, a deeper one for parties. Give her a big cake of sweet-smelling soap for her very own! Build a little Beauty Shelf where she can keep her own special toilet articles. This will encourage good grooming. And she will bless you when she grows older.

## For Spring & Summer

In spite of recent heavy falls of snow, the salons of the big London dressmakers have been crowded by buyers and journalists from Britain and overseas, who went to see the 1947 spring and summer collections of clothes.

The evening gowns were more luxurious than any seen since before World War. H. Norman Hartnell showed a gown in gold tissue with a skirt showing six separate drapings; the effect was something like a luminescent piece of designing and craftsmanship that the extremely hard-boiled onlookers involuntarily applauded as they watched it.

The off-the-shoulder line is less popular, but near-crinoline skirts are shown in practically every house. Peter Russell's collection included skirts with turned-up hems like those of the 1920s. Bianca Mosca designed a mink skirt which had its fullness accentuated by being pulled under at the hem.

The woollen fabrics from British mills attracted a great amount of interest, and every house reported orders that will keep them busy until well into the spring.

Foremost among the fabrics are the soft duvelins, doeskins, cloth suitings and tweeds on which the woollen mills have been working hard since the war ended, and the opinion expressed by several of the overseas visitors was that the collections shown would be considered first-class even in ordinary times. In face of the inevitable post-war difficulties the job done by the dressmakers "is nothing short of stupendous," as one expressed it.

## Church Leaders Think Britain Is Facing A Grave Moral Crisis

Many British religious leaders fear that Britain faces a crisis in morals as grave as her crisis in fuel. Skyrocketing divorce and crime rates, falling church attendance and the rise of vice in London's fashionable West End worry churchmen as much as declining production figures harass industrialists and Cabinet ministers.

The "great switch-off" in morality—as some call it—came with the horrors of the blitz and the wartime breakup of families, and darkened more homes in the social upheaval that followed the war.

"Britain's two main problems," said Cardinal Griffin, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, on the eve of the power switch-off, "are a decline in moral standards and an increase in crime."

Clergymen and newspapers fret over prostitution—more than 2,000 girls working in the West End alone—and over a rise in the number of cases involving cruelty to children. One home where parents mistreated small children was described in court as "a Belsen camp all over again."

### More Divorces

Britain's highest judicial figure, Lord Jowitt, the Lord Chancellor, estimated that 50,000 divorce suits would be filed in 1947, compared with 650 in 1935 and 25,000 in 1945.

A former Home Secretary, Viscount Templewood, said that criminal offences by women and children had doubled since 1939, that the number of offenders over 21 was up 45 per cent, that sexual offences rose from 2,721 in 1938 to 3,225 in 1947, that offences by girls were four times more numerous than before the war, and that cases involving cruelty to children rose from 345 in 1935 to 1,170 in 1947.

Cardinal Griffin said only 10 per cent of England's population was "attached to any form of religious organisation," while only five per cent of the people of London regularly attend church.

### Organised Prostitution

Prostitution is reported to be organised on a big business basis in the West End, where the trade reached a peak of prosperity during the war.

Fairly in West London, the nation's "vice capital," are impoverished. The Sunday Pictorial reported that some paid £50 a week to the gangster organisation for the right to lurk in a murky side street.

Venerable disease is less rampant than a year ago, but there is still twice as much of it as before the war. In the West End, where the rate is reported rising, one clinic had 1,000 cases compared with 500 a year ago.

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool, Dr. Downey, said it this way in a pastoral letter to his churches: "The world has long been heading for spiritual bankruptcy."

The General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, through its committee on Church and Nation, put it in another form: "It is only too clear that what were once acknowledged to be breaches of an accepted moral code are now regarded by many as quite natural."

## Brazil's War Against Communism

The Brazilian Government, continuing its open battle against Communism "within the law," is seeking to purge Communists from the armed forces, reports Associated Press.

President Eurico Gaspar Dutra has asked Congress to enact into law a proposal to expel all Communists from the Army, Navy and Air Force, as well as from the Military Police Corps and the Rio de Janeiro Fire Department.

The proposal, however, met strong opposition in the Chamber of Deputies, where it has been tentatively set aside. The Senate has not yet had an opportunity to speak on the subject.

In his message to the chamber, President Dutra said the extremists were secretly plotting against his Government, and that for reasons of national security the heads of the armed forces demanded elimination of all who held allegiance to anti-democratic doctrines "or who are known to profess doctrines of this nature."

Members of the National Democratic Union, the "loyal opposition" to the Dutra Government, joined the Communist spokesmen. They said the proposed law was "obviously unconstitutional."

## REFORM URGED IN MARRIED LIFE

Rev Francis J. Connell, of the Catholic University of America, told a convention of the US National Catholic Conference on Family Life: "Unless there is drastic reform in the American attitude toward married life and its obligations, we shall soon behold here well-nigh universal practice of sex customs quite similar to those of brute animals."

"Nowadays we see an utterly pagan, materialistic spirit prevailing regarding all that pertains to marriage," United Press.

## PROTECTION PAYMENTS IN HAWAII

A Hawaiian territorial tax collector asserted recently that vice and gambling interests paid US\$1,000,000 each year for police protection in Honolulu during two rich war years.

He estimated that protection payments exceeded \$1,000,000 each year in 1944 and 1945, when the islands were crowded with servicemen.

One source, who declined to be named, asserted that one man headed the entire vice and gambling ring, and received \$1,000,000 for himself. This source said payments involved nearly 50 policemen.—Associated Press.

## DISTORTION UNDER ICE

A submarine operating in Antarctic waters probably could escape detection by enemy sound devices by diving under floating ice, in the opinion of Albert N. Taylor, of US Naval Research Laboratory, who is a member of the American naval expedition to the Antarctic.

Using instruments in the Ross Sea ice pack to determine whether they could reveal the presence of ships there as well as in clear water, no sound ice distorted the path of sound pulses, partly because these pulses hit ice surfaces at peculiar angles.

He compared this distortion to that which gives a fish in a river its strange view of the world. The surface above the fish appears opaque, but the light entering in at angles can give the fish views out of both sides of the surface, reports Associated Press.

## GIBRALTAR TO BE STUDIED

The School of Prehistoric Research at Harvard University is sending an expedition to Tangiers, among other things, it will study whether or not the area of the Straits of Gibraltar was land during the Ice Age 25,000 years ago.

In those early times, scientists say, the level of the oceans presumably was several hundred feet lower than now, and prehistoric man may have been able to walk across the present strait.—Associated Press.

## School Talent For Davis Cup

Supreme honours of Davis Cup or Wimbledon championships are being brought within reach of every schoolboy or schoolgirl who has talent by the new national coaching scheme of the Lawn Tennis Association in Britain.

It is proposed that Britain will be divided into five areas. Sports masters and mistresses in these areas will be coached by expert tutors and impart knowledge thus gained to their pupils. Education authorities will be urged to assist in the search for talent.

## English Boy, 11, Was 3 Years With U.S. Forces

An 11-year-old English boy who "joined" the United States Army when only eight and was adopted as a mascot by an engineering unit, with whom he stayed during the fighting in Southern France, around Paris and on to Berlin, is providing a problem for the police and immigration authorities at Newhaven, Sussex.

Speaking with a strong American accent and giving his name as Richard Lawrence from Feltham, Middlesex, he said he was picked up by British military police in Paris last week. Sent back to Newhaven under escort, he immediately escaped on landing in England, getting as far as Brighton before he was recaptured.

The boy said his first contact with the Americans occurred outside an hotel in the Midlands after he escaped from reform school. Telling the Americans he was an orphan, he was invited by the soldiers to join them.

According to Richard's story, he was smuggled in a kitbag aboard an aircraft and flown from an airfield near Birmingham to the Continent. The engineering unit with which he found himself adopted him as a mascot and he remained with them



## RAF SPEED ACE TEACHES TEST PILOTS

Group Captain H. J. (Willie) Wilson, who established the world speed record of 606 miles per hour last year, is teaching outstanding flyers from all over the globe to be test pilots at a unique school, the only one of its kind.

At the Empire Test Pilot School, Wilson is training men from the Royal Air Force, from the United States, from China and from the British Dominions. Already 100 flyers have been graduated from the school. The course is expensive in time and money. It costs £10,000 and takes nine months to train a test pilot, but authorities say these trained men will save the aviation industry fortunes in years to come.

### LIST OF STUDENTS

At the start, the course teaches pilots the technical theories of flying so that later they will be able to discuss stresses and aerodynamics with the same thought as the designer. In the air, they use the latest instruments.

The present list of students includes: Flight-Lieutenant N. F. Duke, D.S.O., D.F.C., who was a member of the RAF high-speed flight which recently established the world's speed record of 606 miles per hour; Captain G. Sondarman, personal pilot of Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands and winner of the aerobatic championship of Europe in 1938; and J. C. Miles, civilian test pilot for the Australian Government, who has flown more than 10,000 hours.—Associated Press.

## SCOUTS MAKE PEN FRIENDS

Shortly before the end of the recent war, Scout Imperial Headquarters in Britain announced a "Linking-up" scheme with the idea of bringing scouts in different countries together in friendship and understanding. The International Department of the Boy Scouts Association now announces that 605 British scout groups are writing to, and getting letters from, groups in 16 other countries.

Included in the scheme are scout groups in Holland, France, Norway, Belgium, Denmark, Luxembourg, Poland, Switzerland, the United States, Sweden, Greece, Iraq, Italy, Liechtenstein, Czechoslovakia and Austria. There are still 100 groups overseas waiting to be put in touch with British scout groups. French scout authorities, Czechoslovakian and Danish, in particular, are still sending in applications.

Scouting began in Britain, but it has always welcomed brothers in other lands, and it is hoped that in this way boys all over the world will grow up knowing those of other lands, with friendly feelings for them. Meanwhile, scouts in Britain enjoy "meeting" their new pen friends.

## SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"He's so crazy about his grandchildren that I haven't the heart to tell him that one of the neighbours' children come to borrow sugar!"

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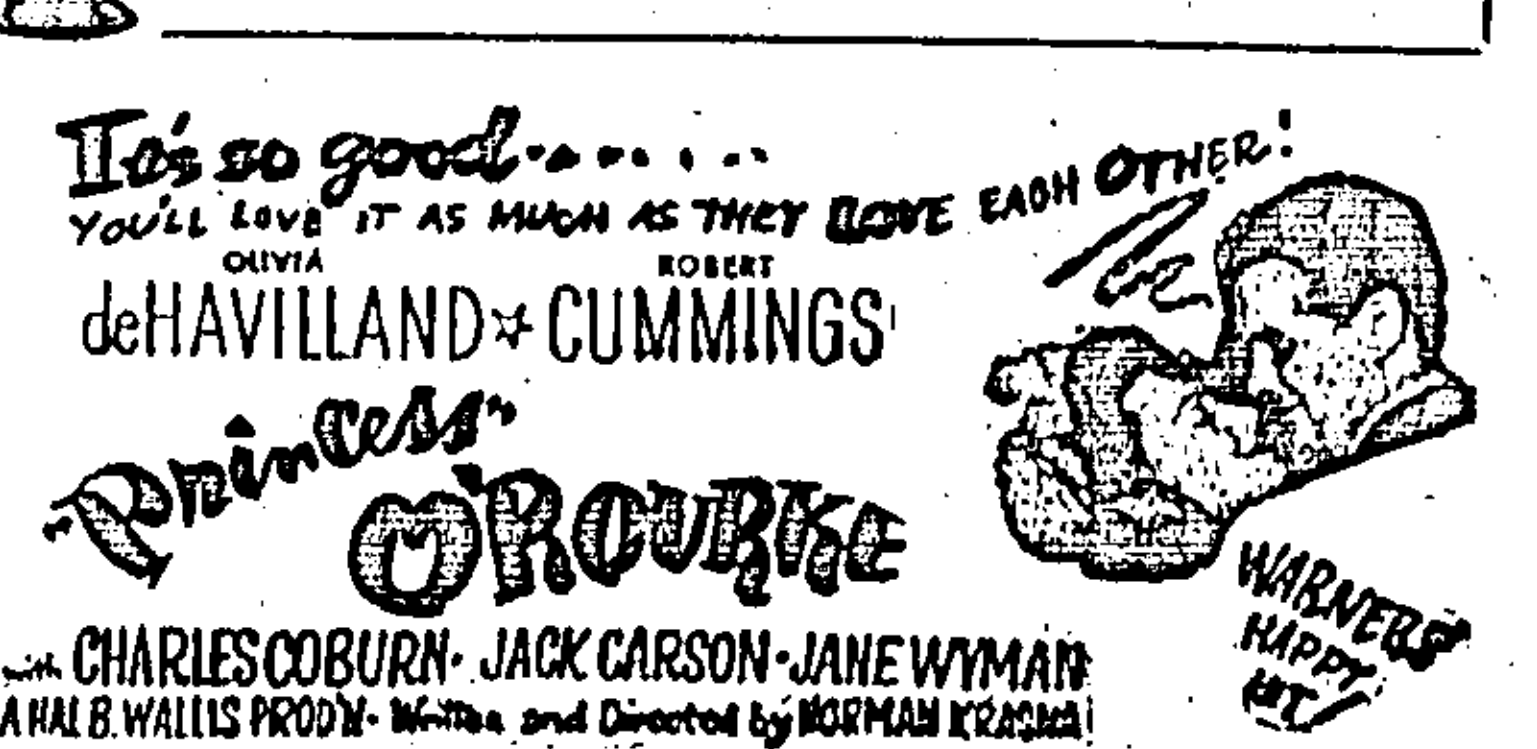


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# Britain Favours Early Japan Peace Treaty And Trade Resumption

London, Mar. 18.

A suggestion made yesterday by the Supreme Allied Commander in Japan, General Douglas MacArthur, that the peace treaty with Japan should be signed as soon as possible, was welcomed to-day by the British Foreign Office.

Recalling that a similar suggestion had recently been made by the Australian Foreign Minister, Dr. Evatt, a spokesman of the Foreign Office said Britain would favour early conclusion of the treaty, provided it was based on Allied agreement and the British Dominions were associated with the treaty-making.

## Uproar In Italian Assembly

Rome, Mar. 18.

Repercussions of Italy's most sensational political murder since Fascist days caused an uproar in the Constituent Assembly to-day, with speakers alleging the imminence of a Communist revival and civil war.

The slaying of Franco de Agazio, editor of a pro-Fascist weekly newspaper in Milan, provoked an angry debate. Speakers claimed it was another Matteotti affair and demanded government assurances that it would not go unpunished.

Other cases of Leftist and Rightist political violence in the past three days raised heated arguments and pleas that the authority of the government be enforced to prevent the rebirth of Fascism or civil war.

De Agazio was killed in a gangland style on Friday night after his newspaper identified the man who killed Mussolini and supposedly directed the disposal of a Fascist gold hoard.

### Government Action Asked

Independent Tullio Benedetti charged in a debate that the government had let an internal situation develop which "permits liberty of action to aggressors of every sort" and urged them to "re-establish the prestige and authority of the state."

The Uomo Qualunquiste deputy, Vincenzo Schvartz, said the government must "take the necessary steps or go toward civil war and dictatorship."

Leftist deputies had to be brought to order by the Assembly President, Umberto Terracini, during both speeches.—United Press.

## Lifeboats Smash Against Ship

Sunderland, Mar. 18.

Two men were drowned to-day when two lifeboats of the Dilon (8,146 ton), a British tanker on passage from Haifa, smashed against the ship's side after she had struck a submerged wrecked off Sunderland.

The seamen in the boats were thrown into the rough seas over which oil from the ship was spreading.

To-night the Dilon is drifting towards the shore in a heavy mist and may blow up on beaching. She was within an hour of her destination, Jarrow, when she struck the wreck. Two seamen were taken to hospital because of the danger of fire.

The lifeboat rescued the crew, many of whom were Chinese. Eight seamen were taken to hospital.—Reuter.

## Other Eyes On Indo-China

Paris, Mar. 18.

The Colonial Minister, Marius Moutet, to-day told the Assembly that if France withdrew from Indo-China "another country" would soon take its place.

The Viet Nam president, Ho Chi Minh, does not represent all Viet Nam members and there are Annamites around him who would like to see him removed, he said.

A referendum has not been held in Indo-China because it would not be a "free expression" of the people's will at the present time, he added.

Viet Nam leaders signed the March 10 accord in bad faith, with the intention of abiding by it, the Minister concluded.—United Press.

On the question of reparations to be paid by Japan, the spokesman pointed out that General MacArthur had already made some preparations by setting aside certain factories as surplus to Japan's post-war needs, but no agreement had yet been reached on their allocation.

The persistent refusal of the Soviet Government to allow Japan's external assets to be included in the common reparations pool had delayed matters.

The Foreign Office spokesman said that Britain would very much favour an early resumption of private trading with Japan, and had in fact already pressed for this measure.

Britain would, of course, desire private trading to be on a non-discriminatory basis, giving equal opportunities to all countries.—Reuter.

### Japanese Labour

Tokyo, Mar. 19.

The Japanese labour movement should place its interest in purely labour matters, such as collective bargaining, ahead of its interest in politics and should take care that it does not, through ill-considered action, destroy the fabric of the country, Mr. Willard S. Townsend, former American member of the International Committee of the World Federation of Trade Unions, told a press conference yesterday.

Mr. Townsend made the following points during a long conversation with Japanese and American correspondents: the Japanese labour movement should adopt a realistic policy towards the situation in Japan; it should place trade union problems above domestic politics; it must realise that Japan has emerged from the war a poverty-stricken country; the duty of all Japanese, insofar as possible, is to work together harmoniously for national reconstruction.

### Political Aspects

Labour should avoid domination by political groups of either the extreme left, extreme right or any other kind. Communist infiltration into the labour movement, if it seeks to put political aims of the Communist ahead of the general interest of labour, is to be deplored.

Mr. Townsend said labour unions in the United States found it advisable never to strike against the government, and Japanese labour movements may have similar experience. Labour political demonstrations are inadvisable if their aims are purely political and not concerned with labour's special problems.

"The WFTU wants a good, solid labour movement in Japan," he said. Throughout the interview Mr. Townsend, who is vice-president of the CIO and president of the American Union of Transport Employees, emphasised that the world movement should place emphasis upon problems of labour and not purely political activities.

### Not A Communist

He explained that the Moscow meeting of the WFTU decided to send an international committee to study labour conditions in occupied areas of the Orient following a similar study in Europe. The committee now visiting Japan will study conditions here and then make recommendations to WFTU with a view to bringing the Japanese labour movement into line with the world labour movement.

He said labour must take care not to destroy industry which gives them the jobs, suggesting mutual co-operation among labour, capital and government.

Asked to comment on a telegram from New York quoting the spokesman of the rival American Federation of Labour that the WFTU mission to Japan was to propagate Communism, Mr. Townsend said: "I am not a Communist. That is all I have to say."

He made clear that he was strongly opposed to any Communist effort to dominate Japanese labour.

Mr. Townsend said he expected to remain one month in Japan.—United Press.

## First Postwar Japan Trade Treaty

Tokyo, Mar. 18.

The newspaper Asahi to-day published a report that a Japanese Board of Trade representative has signed a trade agreement with the Philippines Government under which it is understood, the Philippines will export 150 tons of hemp to Japan per month.

The paper said the first postwar trade pact between Japan and another Oriental nation also provides for trade outside the United States Commercial Company and bilateral dollar settlements in New York.—United Press.

## KESSELRING CITES U.S. WAR CODE

Venice, Mar. 18.

Field Marshal Albert Kesselring's defence to-day introduced United States Army articles of war as evidence that reprisals against innocent persons, cited as "legitimate" by the German command, are condemned by American military law.

Dr. Hans Latenser, chief defence counsel, asked the Court to accept the Army articles of war because "they contain examples of reprisals against innocent persons entirely similar to those which Marshal Kesselring has cited as legitimate."

The prosecutor, Colonel R. C. Halse, opposed the move because the trial is being held before British and not an American military tribunal, where "British military law is in effect," complemented by International Law, which prohibits reprisals against innocent persons.

Mr. C. L. Stirling, K.C., law adviser to the Court, asked Col. Halse whether he could "prove that assertion, because as far as I know, reprisals against innocent persons is admitted in certain specific cases of International Law."

### Articles Accepted

Col. Halse answered that "it is one thing when innocent persons are the victims of reprisals as in the case of aerial bombing," and another thing "innocent persons are deliberately executed in reprisal."

The Court accepted the United States Army articles of war as "testimonial evidence," and Mr. Stirling read sections dealing with where American military law permits the execution of innocent persons by way of reprisal.—United Press.

## Migrant Labour in Africa

London, Mar. 18.

Mr. Claude Clarke, an official of the South African Department of Native Affairs, is attending the ten-day International Labour Office conference on social policy in dependent territories.

Mr. Clarke is a member of the committee of 11 experts now meeting here to examine, among other matters, the problem of migrant labour, especially in Africa.

The committee is consultative and its members do not represent their government positions. Their recommendations will not necessarily be limited to the work undertaken by the Labour Office, but may call attention to new problems or to new methods of dealing with problems affecting dependent territories.

The conference, which was opened by the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Arthur Creech-Jones, is primarily interested in migrant labour, particularly in the African continent, where the standard of living in villages is often so low that it causes mass migration to towns. This in turn crowds the towns while whole rural areas are threatened with depopulation.—Reuter.

## Founder Of General Motors Dead

New York, Mar. 18.

Mr. William C. Durant, organizer of General Motors, giant American motor car manufacturing organization, died to-day at the age of 89.

Mr. Durant twice held and twice lost control of the firm. He was a daring plunger in investments, an excellent judge of the value of its industry and knew the trade from its earliest transition from wagon manufacturing.—Reuter.

## Indonesians May Burn Rubber As Train Fuel

Batavia, Mar. 18.

Dr. Sutan Sjahrir, Republican Indonesian Premier, said to-day that Indonesians may be compelled to burn rubber as fuel on railways to protect the teak export industry. He said valuable teak is being used now.

"We cannot get coal through the Dutch blockade, and we have no other form of transportation. The Japanese burned teakwood during the occupation and almost destroyed our stands of teak."

"We tried to find other woods to burn, but we are still forced to burn some teak in hauling food from some parts of Java to others," Dr. Sjahrir said.

He continued: "It would be certainly more profitable for the Indonesian Government, which has been keeping these rubber estates in condition without any chance to export the products to maintain costs, if we could use it either as surface for our own streets or even spare our teak wood and use rubber as fuel."

Teakwood is one of the few products of Indonesia which is not under the Dutch export ban.—United Press.

## Red Shirts Move Into Peshawar

London, Mar. 18.

The Exchange Telegraph reporting from Peshawar to-day said an unarmed army of 2,000 Red Shirts (Servants of God) have moved into Peshawar to rescue 30,000 Hindus and Sikhs who have been trapped in riot-torn sections of the city since March 10.

The Red Shirts, who subscribe to Gandhi's non-violence creed, will help police restore order, the dispatch said.—United Press.

## 1894 Flood Records Beaten

London, Mar. 18.

The Thames floods spread still more to-day until in many places the record 1894 levels have been passed. Never since the waters were controlled by a system of locks and weirs has such a strain been put on them in the upper reaches.

At Maidenhead, the water in the streets was between four and six feet deep to-day, below Chertsey, Thames was three miles wide and at Hampton, two platoons of Coldstream Guards have been filling sand-bags with clay and erecting barriers to protect the works supplying one third of London with domestic water.

As the mild weather continued, the floods spread to new areas in the Midlands, including Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

In the Fen country of Norfolk and the Isle of Ely, hundreds of men and women worked desperately throughout the night to hold back the flood waters. So far there has only been one bad break, inundating a comparatively small area.—Reuter.

## MARTIN BEHRMAN'S CARGO

New York, Mar. 18.

The American owners of the liberty ship Martin Behrman, which despite their protests to the Dutch Government against the ship's seizure, its cargo of rubber, sugar and guanine, which the Dutch had removed, is being requisitioned for export by the Dutch Director of Economic Affairs, Mr. J. E. van Hoogstraten.—United Press.

Order To Captain. Batavia, March 18. Rudy Gray, captain of the seized American freighter, Martin Behrman, has been ordered to appear before the Dutch military authorities on March 24, it was learned to-day.—United Press.



## Fuller Policy Outline Wanted By Congress

Washington, Mar. 18.

President Truman winds up his brief Key West vacation to-day and flies back to the White House to-morrow.

The Chief Executive will immediately plunge into a series of conferences, of which the chief will be consultations with Mr. Paul A. Porter, head of the American Mission to Greece, who arrived from Athens yesterday, and Ambassador Lincoln MacVane, en route by air from Athens to-day.

President Truman has kept abreast of the Moscow talks and world reaction to his new foreign policy pronouncement by telephone from the White House, and hence would not find it difficult to resume work. Yesterday he even watched newsreels of himself making the now famous speech to Congress.

One thing the President must consider is the Congressional demand for a full outline of American policy toward Communism in China as well as in the Balkans, which threatens the last day to Greece and Turkey as the President wants.

A powerful group of Senators, some members of the House, now insist upon such a definition before Congress approves the \$400,000,000 which it will cost to check Communism in the Eastern Mediterranean. The group has submitted the major questions to the White House.

### Three Major Questions

1. Is the Administration still putting pressure on Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek to make peace with the Chinese Communists while it adopts a tougher attitude with Communism in the Near East?

2. Why does the State Department persist in asking the approval of Congress for the shipment of \$25,000,000 worth of oil refinery equipment to Russia when everyone knows lend-lease has expired?

3. Why is a portion of the \$350,000,000 European relief programme earmarked for Soviet-dominated Poland?

The group insists that unless it gets prompt and clear-cut answers, there is little hope of meeting President Truman's March 31 deadline for U.S. succession to British action in Greece and Turkey.—United Press.

## BEVIN'S REPLY TO MOLOTOV

Moscow, Mar. 18.

Mr. Bevin's reply to M. Molotov's proposal to discuss China at the Big Four Foreign Ministers conference in Moscow has been delivered, it was learned authoritatively here last night.

The details are not yet available, but the reply is believed to be parallel to that given by Gen. George Marshall, United States Secretary of State, who refused to join in any discussions on China but agreed to the exchange of written information.

Circles close to the British delegation feel that Britain's interest in such discussion is not as great as that of America.—Reuter.

## HUNGARY:

## LONDON MAY PROTEST TO SOVIETS

London, Mar. 18.

Official circles said to-day the Foreign Office was considering sending another note to the Russians in protest against Soviet interference in Hungarian internal affairs.

They said a new British note would parallel the second American note on the "Kovacs case," and its general political implications.

These circles said the Foreign Office also had considered whether to dispatch further note to the Bulgarian Government for its failure to apologise for having sent the militia to the British Mission in Sofia last week.

The Foreign Office last night received a Bulgarian note expressing Bulgaria's readiness to exchange currency in the possession of the British Mission in Sofia for the newly-issued banknotes.

The Bulgarian authorities originally refused to make an exchange, alleging that members of the British Mission engaged in "speculation," which was strongly denied by the Foreign Office.—United Press.

## POSTWAR BRITISH INDUSTRIES FAIR

The allocation of space for exhibitors at the first postwar British Industries Fair is now complete. A record number of 3,311 manufacturers will occupy approximately 835,000 square feet in the greatest national trade fair ever held.

Open from May 5 to 16, the Fair provides accommodation for 1,287 exhibitors at Olympia and 800 at Earl's Court, making a total of 2,183 in the London section. Of 2,183 exhibitors, 1,000 will be exhibiting in the Engineering and Hardware section, which will open simultaneously at Castle Bromwich, Birmingham, where 978 manufacturers will be represented.

## OUTWARD MAILS

Unless otherwise stated Registered Articles and Parcel Post close 20 minutes earlier than time stated below. Wednesday, March 19.

Airmail: Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Sydney, Auckland, London, 3.30 p.m. Sea-mail: USA, Central and South America, Canada (via Seattle), 3 p.m. South America, 3 p.m. Hongkong, 4 p.m. Macao, Tientsin, Shekhi, 4 p.m. Haiphong, 3 p.m. Straits, 3 p.m. Canton, 4 p.m.

Thursday, March 20

Airmail: Fochow, Shanghai, Peking, Canton, Chungking, Amoy, Nanking, Hankow, Tientsin, 3.30 p.m. Sea-mail: Saigon, Amoy, Fochow, 10 a.m. Hongkong, noon. Straits, Batavia, Sourabaya, Makassar, 3 p.m. Bangkok and Swatow, noon. Pakhoi, Hobei, Tsankong, 4 p.m. Manila, noon. Hongkong, 4 p.m. Macao, Tientsin, Shekhi, 4 p.m. Canton, 4 p.m.

Friday, March 21

Airmail: Bangkok, Rangoon, Calcutta, Karachi, Basra, Cairo, Johannesburg, Augusta, Marseilles, London, New York, Canton, 3.30 p.m. Kunming, Canton, Hobei, 3.30 p.m. Sea-mail: Hongkong, 10 a.m. Shanghai, USA, Central and South America, Canada (via San Francisco), 3 p.m. Straits, noon. Hongkong, 2 p.m. Bangkok, 3 p.m. Hongkong, 4 p.m. Macao, Tientsin, Shekhi, 4 p.m. Canton, 4 p.m.

## TO-DAY'S BROADCAST

ZBW on 645 kilocycles from 12.30 to 2 p.m., and 630 to 11 p.m., and also on 655 megacycles in the 31 metre band from 12.40 to 1.10, 6.30 to 7.50 and 9 to 11 p.m. H.K.T.

6.30, Dinah Shore (Vocal) and Tommy Dorsey and His Orchestra. 7, London Relay: World News, 7.10, London Relay: Home News from Britain. 7.15, Studio: Sing For You—Evelyn Yuen (Soprano) with Piano Accompaniment by Betty Brown. 8, Studio: Berlin and You Studio: Classical Music Programme arranged by Lynn Frazer, 8.30, with Organ. 9, London Relay: News. 9.10, Studio: Band Concert by the Regimental Band of the 2nd Battalion of the West Yorkshire Regiment (Princess of Wales Own). Under the Direction of Bandmaster B.B. White. 9.45, Stars Parade—Stage and Screen. 10, Studio: The Truth. 10.15, Twilight Melodies. 11, Close Down.

Printed and published by Frederick Percy Franklin for and on behalf of South China Morning Post and Lat Pau at 1-3 Wyndham Street, City of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong.

## KING MOVED BY INDIANS' WELCOME

Potomac, Mar. 18. King George VI, browed by the sun and wind, and erect in a white naval uniform—his state garb on these occasions—was visibly moved yesterday by an uproarious demonstration of goodwill by massed Indian youth estimated by municipal and school authorities to number 13,000.

Gathered in a huge oval open space, the boys and girls and many of the elder men, wearing the richly-colored traditional saris, formed the largest gathering of Indians the Royal Family have yet seen on this tour. The youths cheered and displayed flags and presented physical culture exercises while their elders looked on and applauded.—Associated Press.

## MAJESTIC

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